

**ABSOLUTE RATING:** Excellent

**IMPROVEMENT RATING:** Average

Number of districts with students like ours: 2.

The absolute ratings for those districts ranged from excellent to excellent. For improvement ratings, the range was from average to average.

#### Definitions of District Rating Terms

**Excellent-** District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

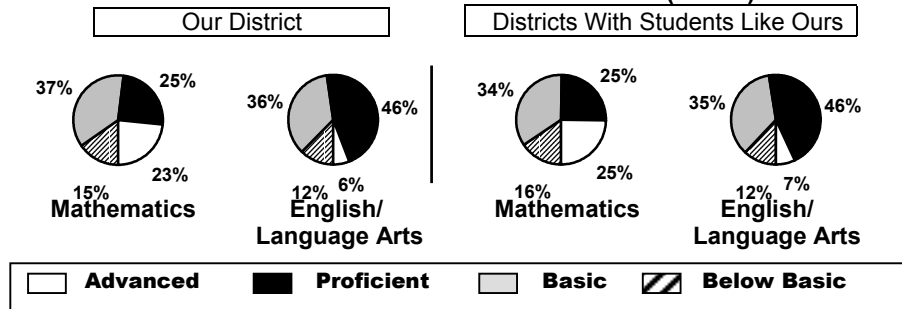
**Good-** District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Average-** District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Below Average-** District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Unsatisfactory-** District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

### PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



#### DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

#### PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

Student Group	Percent of Seniors Passing the Exit Exam	Percent of Seniors Qualifying for LIFE Scholarships	Percent of Students Scoring Basic or Above on the PACT	
			ELA	Math
<b>All Students</b>	95.5%	37.9%	87.8%	84.6%
Students with disabilities other than Speech	64.3%	0.0%	43.2%	40.5%
Students without disabilities	97.1%	40.2%	90.5%	87.1%
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	95.9%	40.0%	84.5%	84.6%
Female	95.1%	35.8%	91.8%	84.8%
<b>Ethnic Group</b>				
African-American	87.5%	4.5%	67.2%	61%
Hispanic	100.0%	66.7%	N/A	N/A
White	96.1%	40.5%	90.4%	87.4%
Other	100.0%	50.0%	89.5%	92.1%
<b>Lunch Status</b>				
Free/ Reduced-Price Lunch	81.8%	0.0%	66.7%	63.8%
Pay for Lunch	96.2%	39.5%	91.6%	88.2%

### TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	First-time Examinees		
	1999	2000	2001
Our district			
Passed all 3 subtests	75.6%	86.2%	80.9%
Passed 2 subtests	14.0%	7.8%	12.0%
Passed 1 subtest	6.8%	5.0%	5.1%
Passed no subtest	3.6%	1.1%	2.0%
Districts with students like ours			
Passed all 3 subtests	77.9%	86.9%	85.3%
Passed 2 subtests	13.8%	8.0%	9.3%
Passed 1 subtest	6.0%	4.0%	3.7%
Passed no subtest	2.4%	1.3%	1.8%

### LIFE scholarships at four-year institutions

	Eligible	Percent of Seniors Meeting Grade Point Average Requirement	Meeting SAT/ACT Requirement
Our District	37.9%	65.1%	39.0%
Districts Like Ours	39.9%	65.6%	41.6%

**College Admissions Tests:** Tests that are frequently used in the college admissions process.

	SAT Verbal		SAT Math		SAT Total		ACT English		ACT Math		ACT Reading		ACT Science		ACT Total	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
District	515	515	521	532	1036	1047	18.5	20.5	20.5	21.4	18.9	22.5	18.8	22.2	19.3	21.8
State	484	486	482	488	966	974	18.7	18.8	19.2	19.3	19.5	19.5	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.3
Nation	505	506	514	514	1019	1020	20.5	20.5	20.7	20.7	21.4	21.3	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0

*These tests were administered to samples of students:*

**Terra Nova Test:** A national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percent scoring in upper half

	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Grade 4	47.8	50.0	43.1	50.0	58.4	50.0	50.5	50.0
Grade 7	45.8	50.0	59.4	50.0	54.7	50.0	53.9	50.0
Grade 10	59.6	50.0	59.5	50.0	62.4	50.0	59.1	50.0

**National Assessment of Education Progress :** A national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

			Percents of Students							
Test	Grade	Year	Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	4	1998	4	6	18	23	33	32	45	39
Writing	8	1998	0	1	15	23	64	59	21	17
Mathematics	4	2000	2	3	16	23	42	43	40	31

## DISTRICT PROFILE

### INDICATORS OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

	This District	Change from Last Year	Districts With Students Like Ours	Median District
<b>DISTRICT</b>				
• Dollars per student	\$6,086	N/A	\$6,352	\$6,464
• Prime instructional time	90.5%	Down from 92.3%	90.7%	89.4%
• Student-teacher ratio	21.9 to 1	N/A	21.8 to 1	20.2 to 1
• Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0%	N/A	0.1%	0.6%
<b>STUDENTS (n=5,244)</b>				
• Advanced placement/ int'l baccalaureate program exam success ratio	92.3%	N/A	84.9%	43.8%
• Attendance Rate	96.5%	Down from 96.9%	96.9%	95.7%
• Taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	1.5%	N/A	1.3%	5.8%
• Taking PACT (Math) off grade level	0.9%	N/A	1%	4.5%
• Retention rate	2.9%	Down from 3.5%	3%	6.0%
<b>TEACHERS (n=361)</b>				
• Professional development days per teacher	8.8 Days	Up from 6.6	8.1 Days	7.8 Days
• Attendance rate	95.7%	Down from 96.3%	95.1%	95.2%
• Advanced Degrees	54.3%	Down from 55.5%	56.8%	44.4%
• Continuing contracts	82.8%	Up from 80.4%	85.8%	81.4%
• Out-of-field permits	0%	Down from 0.3%	0.8%	2.2%
• Teachers returning from the previous year	92.9%	Down from 94.6%	91.8%	89.5%
• Average salary	\$38,676	Up 3.5%	\$39,408	\$37,143

## DISTRICT FACTS

<b>DISTRICT</b>				
• Annual dropout rate	1.8%	Down from 1.9%	1.9%	2.9%
• Percentage spent on teacher salaries	53.3%	N/A	54.2%	50.9%
• Superintendent's years in the district	4	N/A	6	3.5
• Parent conferences	71.7%	N/A	76.8%	81.0%
• Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	N/A	Excellent	Excellent
• Number of schools	7	No change	12	8
• Number of alternative schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of charter schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of magnet schools	0	N/A	0	0
• Portable classrooms	4.8%	N/A	4.8%	6.5%
• Attendance rate of district office staff	97.5%	N/A	97.5%	97.5%
• Average administrative salary	\$70,551	Up 6.7%	\$68,725	\$64,098
<b>STUDENTS</b>				
• Enrollment in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Percent of completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Suspensions and expulsions	28	N/A	171	100
• Percent eligible for state gifted and talented programs	27.7%	Up from 24.1%	26.2%	10.5%
• Percentage with disabilities other than speech	5.8%	Up from 4.8%	6.9%	10.5%

York 4 School District  
120 East Elliott Street  
Fort Mill, SC 29715



**Grades** K-12

**Enrollment:** 5,244 Students

**Superintendent** TEC Dowling 803-548-2527

**Board Chair** Chantay F. Boulter 803-547-2034

## THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual District Report Card	2001
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### DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Fort Mill School District Four has adopted "Children First" as the guiding principle for decision-making and this doctrine has been demonstrated by a continuation of our 150 year tradition of providing quality educational opportunities for every child we serve.

Our successes have contributed to a phenomenal increase in student enrollment. We remain the fastest growing school district (per capita) in South Carolina and that growth has continued to put a strain on our facilities, on our efforts to reduce student/teacher ratios, and on our ability to meet escalating operational costs.

The community has assisted the school district in meeting these challenges by supporting a successful bond referendum and by participating in the development of a Strategic Plan that focuses on improving student performance. As a result, we have recently constructed three new elementary schools, renovated and expanded two other existing facilities, and currently have underway additions to our two middle schools. Additionally, we have successfully reassigned more than 60 percent of all elementary students, faculty and staff, hired additional teachers in order to address our growth needs and maintain our student to teacher ratios.

As part of our effort to improve classroom performance, we provide opportunities for professional development and training for our teachers and staff members and financial assistance is offered to teachers who seek National Board Certification. An innovative Lead Teacher concept has been successfully piloted in the district and has resulted in increased support for the classroom teacher.

The Board of Trustees and administration continue to explore creative ways to save money. We remain the only district in the state to apply an impact fee on new housing units. Those monies collected from these fees have been used to reduce some of the tax dollars necessary to fund our construction costs and, in turn, have offset recent increases in operational costs.

Our focus remains on children, "...to educate our students to their greatest potential."

TEC Dowling, Superintendent

### South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at

[www.myschools.com](http://www.myschools.com)